Army Regulation 711–6

Supply Chain Integration

Army Participation in the Defense Logistics Agency Weapon System Support Program

SUMMARY of CHANGE

AR 711–6
Army Participation in the Defense Logistics Agency Weapon System Support Program

This new Department of the Army regulation--

o Establishes policy and guidance for Army participation in the Defense
   Logistics Agency Weapon Systems Support Program (para 1-4).

o Establishes a business process that enables the Army and DLA to manage weapon
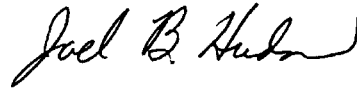   systems that are selected for the WSSP (para 2-8).

Supply Chain Integration

Army Participation in the Defense Logistics Agency Weapon System Support Program

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UNCLASSIFIED

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Glossary

Chapter 1
Weapon System Support Program

1–1. Purpose

a. This regulation prescribes Department of Army (DA) policies, responsibilities, and procedures for managing and executing Army participation in the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) Weapon Systems Support Program (WSSP) administered by DLA.

b. The DLA WSSP was established to enable the services to identify to DLA those common consumable parts required to ensure adequate supply posture in support of organizational readiness objectives. Although the Army has been a participant throughout, no formal document has ever addressed Army participation. This regulation is the first in the Army Supply Chain Integration series. DLA is the Army's most critical partner in weapon system supply support and readiness. Army participation begins early in the life cycle of the weapon system and requires consideration and concurrence by operational as well as logistics practitioners. In the 1990s, this became most critical because of the Consumable Item Transfer initiative, which mandated that all weapon system unique consumable and field-level reparable parts be transferred to DLA for management. As a result, DLA now manages 80 per cent of the parts required to maintain the readiness and operational availability of weapon systems.

c. The overall objective of the DLA WSSP is to enhance the readiness and sustainability of the military services by providing the maximum practical level of support for DLA-managed items with weapon system application. The DLA WSSP enables DLA to develop an investment strategy that is geared to the criticality of the weapon system end items as registered in the WSSP and the essentiality of their component parts. The information provided to the DLA WSSP drives DLA support for weapon systems. DLA uses the WSSP to establish funding priorities, make personnel assignments, initiate procurement actions, tailor business arrangements, and focus attention on national stock numbers (NSNs) degrading mission capability of the military services' materiel requirements.

1–2. References

Required and related publications and prescribed and referenced forms are listed in appendix A.

1–3. Explanation of abbreviations and terms

Abbreviations and special terms used in this regulation are explained in the glossary.

1–4. Responsibilities

a. The Deputy Chief of Staff (DCS), G–4, will—

(1) Set policies for management of Army participation in the DLA WSSP.

(2) Participate in general officer steering committee (GOSC) that will review DCS, G–8, council of colonels (COC) decisions on Level A/Level B management.

(3) Convene and co-chair with COC to review nominations, migrations, or changes to weapon systems designated for Level A/Level B management. Refer recommended actions to GOSC.

(4) Nominate systems for Level A/Level B management.

(5) Recommend changes or migrations to Level A/Level B systems.

(6) Collect recommendations for nominations/changes from other Army staff agencies and forward to the U.S. Army Materiel Command (USAMC) for review prior to convening COC.

b. The DCS, G–3, will—

(1) Appoint a designated representative to convene and chair the GOSC in review of COC recommendations on Level A/Level B management.

(2) As the prioritizer for the Army, approve/disapprove COC decisions.

(3) Identify systems based on emergent operational needs for elevation to Level A management without the formal review process.

(4) Recommend changes or migrations to Level A/Level B systems. Forward recommendations to DCS, G–4 (DALO–SMP(SCI)).

(5) Participate in the COC.

c. The DCS, G–8, will—

(1) Participate in the GOSC.

(2) Co-chair the annual COC with the DCS, G–4.

(3) Nominate candidates for Level A/Level B management based on knowledge of operational requirements or special programs.

(4) Recommend changes or migrations to Level A/Level B systems.

(5) Forward all candidates for nomination and/or change to DCS, G–4 (DALO–SMP(SCI)).

d. The Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology (ASA(ALT)), will—

(1) Participate in the GOSC.

(2) Inform the PEO(program executive officer)/program managers (PM) community about the WSSP.

(3) Participate in the COC.

(4) Nominate systems for Level A/Level B management based on PEO/PM recommendations.

(5) Forward recommendations to DCS, G–4 (DALO–SMP(SCI)) (if DCS, G–4, is the collection activity).

(6) Ensure that all new weapon systems requiring DLA support are identified to Headquarters, Army Materiel Command (HQAMC), for inclusion in the DLA WSSP as Level C systems as soon as the supportability plan is known (at the same time as a developmental line item number is requested.)

e. The Surgeon General (TSG) and the Commanding General (CG), U.S. Army Medical Materiel Activity (CG, USAMMA), will—

(1) Identify and nominate medical materiel systems requiring DLA supply support in accordance with this regulation and forward recommendations to DCS, G–4 (DALO–SMP(SCI)).

(2) Participate in the General Officer Steering Committee (GOSC) as required.

f. The CG, USAMC, will—

(1) Participate in the GOSC as a nonvoting member.

(2) Serve as responsible official for the Army's processes for participating in the DLA WSSP and, as a materiel developer, ensure proper registration of emerging systems in the DLA WSSP.

(3) Participate in the COC as a voting member.

(4) Nominate systems for Level A/Level B.

(5) Recommend changes or migrations to Level A/Level B systems.

(6) Forward recommended nominations/changes to DCS, G–4 (DALO–SMP(SCI)).

(7) Review all nomination, migration, or change packages for completeness prior to forwarding to HQDA for consideration by the COC.

(8) Develop and distribute implementing instructions for the execution of the DLA WSSP at the major subordinate commands (MSCs).

(9) Develop a standard automated methodology for reconciling weapon system configuration files at the MSCs with the DLA WSSP.

(10) Monitor performance standards as they apply to USAMC MSCs to ensure timeliness, quality, and accuracy of data submissions to DLA.

(11) Establish an Army WSSP Process Action Team (PAT), chaired by HQAMC, and convene PAT meetings periodically. Permanent PAT membership will consist of representatives from DA Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff (ODCS), G–4, DLA, DLA Supply Centers, HQAMC, and USAMC MSCs.

Chapter 2
Registration and Determining Criticality/Priority

Section I
Management Process

2–1. Introduction
The overall objective of the DLA WSSP is to enhance the readiness and sustainability of the military services (hereinafter referred to as the services) by providing the maximum practical level of support for DLA-managed items with weapon system application. The WSSP provides the services the means to prioritize their weapon systems and identify DLA-managed repair parts requirements to each of these systems. As a participant in the DLA WSSP, the Army will—

a. Select the weapon system end items for inclusion/registration in the DLA WSSP. (See AR 71–32.)

b. Determine the criticality/priority of each these weapon system end items.

c. Provide required inputs to the corresponding weapon system end item file for each of these weapon system end items. (See AR 70–1.)

d. Continually provide DLA with weapon system end item file change data.

e. Ensure that all DLA-managed national stock numbered repair parts currently used to support each of these weapon system end items, as well as associated essentiality codes (EC) and all other required data, are properly included/registered in WSSP, and any change data are incorporated therein continually.

f. More detailed policy guidance with respect to the foregoing procedures is contained within the principal text of this document and in appendix A, sections 1 and 2.

2–2. Three levels
The DLA has identified three levels of criticality/priority, or weapon system group codes (WSGCs) for service use within the DLA WSSP. The WSGC, an alpha code, is based on the criticality/priority that the service assigns to each weapon system. WSGC A designates a most critical/highest priority weapon system or end item. WSGC B designates a critical/priority weapon system or end item. WSGC C designates a least critical/sustainment weapon system or end item. Wherever possible, registration will be in accordance with the definition of a weapon system contained in AR 700–138. If this is not possible, then registration will be at the line item number (LIN) level. For major components without LINs—for example, engines—registration will be at the NSN level. USAMC will ensure that DLA is notified of all weapon system designator codes (WSDCs) that comprise a single weapon system.

a. The Army will identify 20 systems to be managed at WSGC Level A. Thirty WSDCs will be used to describe these 20 systems in order to separate and give definition and visibility to the most critical components of these 20 weapon systems. In addition, DLA will assign a Weapon System Support Manager (WSSM) at the lead DLA center for that weapon system. The DLA WSSM will be the Army's focal point for all actions for the assigned WSDC.

b. Fifty WSDCs will be used to identify weapon systems and components to other critical systems to be managed at WSGC Level B. A WSSM will not be routinely assigned, but the Army may request, or DLA may assign, a WSSM to a WSDC that is experiencing significant supply problems or degradation in readiness.

c. All other systems will be assigned WSGC Level C.

Section II
Inputs to and Validity of the Weapon System End Item File

2–3. MSC integrated materiel management centers
a. MSC integrated materiel management centers (IMMCs) are responsible for providing required inputs to and maintaining the validity of the DLA WSSP weapon system end item file. The PEOs/defense support agencies (DSAs) and program/project/product managers are required to provide programmatic and technical support to the MSC IMMCs in the execution of this task. The CG, USAMC, will provide the appropriate level of management oversight with respect to this process.

b. The MSC IMMCs are responsible for ensuring that the NSNs, ECs, and all other required data for weapon system end item repair parts registered within the WSSP have been accurately identified and that the validity of this data is continually maintained. The PEOs/DSAs and program/project/product managers are required to provide programmatic and technical support to the MSC IMMCs in the execution of this task. The CG, USAMC, will provide the appropriate level of management oversight with respect to this process.

2–4. Management structure
This regulation establishes the following management structure for reviewing and making determinations on the criticality/priority of weapon system end items nominated for or currently participating in the DLA WSSP.

a. This regulation establishes a GOSC.

(1) The GOSC will be chaired by the DCS, G–3.

(2) Permanent members will be DCS, G–4; DCS, G–3; DCS, G–8; and ASA(ALT). The CG, USAMC, will participate as a nonvoting member. TSG and DLA will be invited to participate as required.

(3) The GOSC will meet only when changes are recommended for Level A and Level B management within the DLA WSSP.

(4) The DCS, G–3,will make the final determination of those systems.

b. This regulation establishes the COC.

(1) The COC will meet at least semiannually.

(2) ODCS, G–4, and ODCS, G–8, will co-chair the COC.

(3) Its charter is to review nominations, migrations, or changes of management levels for weapon systems recommended for Level A/Level B in the DLA WSSP. The COC will forward their recommendations to the GOSC for final review.

(4) USAMC, as the responsible official for Army participation in the DLA WSSP, will serve as the secretary for the COC. In that capacity, USAMC will review all packages for format and completeness prior to forwarding to the COC for consideration.

2–5. Nomination process

a. Proposed nominations, migrations, and changes of items for inclusion in the DLA WSSP for Level A/Level B management will be submitted to HQDA, ODCS, G–4 (DALO–SMP(SCI)). HQDA will forward nominations to HQAMC for review and convene the COC. Approved nominations will be forwarded to USAMC for execution.

b. Only those weapon systems that have supportability strategies requiring supply support from the DLA will be registered in the DLA WSSP. Those systems not currently registered in the WSSP will be registered as a Level C.

c. Program managers will request a WSDC at the same time that they request a developmental LIN.

d. If not otherwise assigned, those requesting a WSDC will request that the two-digit Army weapon system code be used as the first two positions. DLA will assign an "A" in the third position to all Army WSDCs in the WSSP.

2–6. Nominated systems

The following guidance will apply for nominating weapon systems for WSGC Level A or B.

a. Nominations for WSGC Level A should be limited to combatant weapon systems designed as instruments of combat, either offensive or defensive, used to destroy, injure, defeat, or threaten the enemy. These systems require the most intensive management to support performance goals and readiness objectives. Aircraft and tank engines may be separately nominated (from the airframe or chassis) for WSGC Level A in order to target readiness concerns on these important assemblies. Nominations for WSGC Level A may also include weapon systems experiencing long-term readiness problems or failures of supply support where the condition can be improved by management and resource reallocation within the DLA (see para 2–8).

b. Nominations for WSGC Level B should be limited priority systems that are designed for and have a primary combatant function, or provide supplemental, direct, and immediate support to a combatant weapon system or situation. These systems require intensive management to support performance goals and readiness objectives. Engines or other major assemblies may be nominated separately for the purpose of facilitating tracking of supply impacts directly to the assembly.

c. WSGC Level C will be assigned to all systems requiring DLA supply support but not requiring intensive management by DLA in order to reach assigned performance goals and readiness objectives.

2–7. Business rules

a. WSGC Levels A and B weapon systems or assemblies will be approved by the ODCS, G–3.

b. WSGC Level A is limited to 30 WSDCs to identify 20 weapon systems, plus the components of those systems. WSGC Level B is limited to 50 systems or subassemblies/components of systems.

c. In the event of a deployment, the DCS, G–3, can request entry or upgrade of a system or systems to Level A. This designation will be time sensitive, not to exceed 1 year.

d. The criteria for WSGC Level A designation may include but are not limited to:

(1) Status of resources and training (SORT) systems.

(2) Low-density but critical systems for which demand criteria may not be met.

(3) Systems exhibiting downward trending or actual degradation of readiness due to insufficient supply availability.

(4) Assemblies or components critical to the operational availability of a weapon system (for example, engines) that would benefit from the increased visibility afforded by a separate WSDC.

(5) Special need, such as Recapitalization Program, unplanned deployment, increased operating tempo, and so on.

e. The MSC IMMCs will validate all WSSP related data contained within Army files and reconcile these data with those contained within the DLA Weapon System Data Base at least annually or at any time operational requirements

are expected to intensify requiring a higher level of confidence. The PEOs/DSAs and program/project/product managers are required to provide programmatic and technical support to the MSC IMMCs in the execution of this task. The CG, USAMC, will provide the appropriate level of management oversight with respect to this process.

f. USAMC will identify program changes to the WSSP manager and will ensure appropriate action is taken to reflect the change in the WSSP database. Notification of deletion of a weapon system from the WSSP should occur no less than 2 years prior to phase out date.

g. PEO/PMs and USAMC MSCs will support DLA data or program requests in a timely manner (for example, Army input to aviation investment strategy assessments).

2–8. DLA weapon system indicator codes

Once a weapon system is approved or validated for the WSSP, DLA will assign a weapon system indicator code (WSIC) to all DLA managed NSNs that are associated with the approved weapon system. (See table 2–1 to determine the criticality of NSNs being managed by DLA.)

Table 2–1
Weapon system indicator codes

System criticality	NSN EC–1	NSN EC–5	NSN EC–6	NSN EC–7	NSN EC–3/blk
WSIC					
A	F	G	H	J	K
B	L	M	P	R	S
C	T	W	X	Y	Z
NSN rank					
A	1	2	3	10	13
B	4	6	8	11	14
C	5	7	9	12	15
Investment tier					
A	I	I	I	II	III
B	II	II	II	II	III
C	II	II	II	II	III

Chapter 3
Performance Standards

3–1. Overview
The purpose of the WSSP is to ensure that the DLA contribution to the health, vitality, and readiness of service weapon systems is in consonance with the performance and readiness goals and priorities of the registering service. It ensures that the service has a continuing relationship with, and shares responsibility for, the management of consumable items unique to its weapon systems. The metrics are established in table 3–1.

Table 3–1
Performance standards

Program management	Objective	Management level
Notification approved engineering change proposals through AMC to DLA	7 days	10 days
Program changes		
Cancellation of program	7 days	10 days
Withdrawal cancellation of program of WSSP from Army	min. 2 years prior	min. 2 years prior
Data submission (initial)		
For items with unit price greater than $100	98% accuracy	100% accuracy
For items with unit price less than $100	95% accuracy	100% accuracy
Reconciliation		
Timeliness	Not later than 30 Jun	Not later than 30 Jun
For items with unit price greater than $100	98% accuracy	100% accuracy
For items with unit price less than $100	95% accuracy	100% accuracy

3–2. Performance by DLA
In order to ensure that the DLA is providing the support required by the Army mission performance, the following is expected:

a. DLA will make available monthly supply availability figures as well as trends, in an electronic mode.

b. DLA will participate in the quarterly inventory management review as scheduled by the Army ODCS, G–4.

c. DLA will assign a WSSM to any Army Level B system for which they report a trend of supply availability below 85 percent.

d. DLA will notify appropriate Army personnel when they receive three or more NMCS requisitions for parts with essentiality code (EC) other than EC 1.

Appendix A
References

Section I
Required Publications

AR 70–1
Army Acquisition Policy. (Cited in para 2–1*c*.)

AR 71–32
Force Development and Documentation Consolidated Policies. (Cited in para 2–1*a*.)

AR 700–138
Army Logistics Readiness and Sustainability. (Cited in para 2–2.)

Section II
Related Publications
A related publication is a source of additional information. The user does not have to read it to understand this publication.

DLA 4140.1
Standardization Accomplishment Report

DLAI 4140.38
DLA Weapon System Support Program

DOD 4140.26–M
Defense Integrated Materiel Management for Consumable Items

Section III
Prescribed Forms
This section contains no entries.

Section IV
Referenced Forms
This section contains no entries.

Glossary

Section I
Abbreviations

AMC
United States Army Materiel Command

ASA/ALT
Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology)

CG
commanding general

DA
Department of the Army

DCS
Deputy Chief of Staff

DLA
Defense Logistics Agency

EC
Essentiality code

HQ
headquarters

HQAMC
Headquarters, United States Army Material Command

LIN
line item number

NSN
national stock number

PAT
process action team

PEO/PM
program executive officer/program manager

TSG
The Surgeon General

USAMC
United States Army Materiel Command

USAMMA
United States Army Medical Materiel Agency

Section II
Terms

criticality
In this context, criticality designates the importance of a weapon system to the service mission.

essentiality

essentiality is the degree to which any given part affects the performance of the end item. Essentiality is designated by the use of essentiality codes as defined below. Note: DOD/DLA identifies these as mission essentiality codes.

essentiality code (EC)

A code assigned to each NSN to indicate the degree to which the failure of the part affects the ability of the weapon system to perform its intended mission (see DLA 4140.1–R for a full discussion of essentiality coding). For the purpose of this program, the following essentiality codes apply:

a. EC 1, Failure of the item will render the end item inoperable.

b. EC 3, Failure of the items will not render the end item inoperable.

c. EC 5, Item does not qualify for the assignment of EC–1, but is needed for personnel safety.

d. EC 6, Item does not qualify for the assignment of EC–1, but is needed for legal, climatic, or other requirements peculiar to the planned operational environment of the end item.

e. EC 7, Item does not qualify for the assignment of EC–1, but is needed to prevent the impairment of, or the temporary reduction of, operational effectiveness of the end item.

reconciliation

Reconciliation is a joint effort between DLA centers and USAMC MSCs. Its purpose is to compare the WSSP database with the most current service files to ensure that the files match; that the data in both files are accurate (for example, ECs are appropriately assigned); and that the WSSP reflects the latest and greatest configuration. Reconciliation will be performed at least annually. If there are special circumstances, such as application of a materiel change, the notification to DLA will occur within 7 working days, with a full systems reconciliation performed in 30 days.

sustainment

Support required to maintain and prolong operations or combat until successful accomplishment or revision of the mission or of the national objective. In this context, it is that portion of the life cycle after completion of provisioning through designation for disposal.

weapon system designator code (WSDC)

A three-position code assigned by DLA to all weapon systems registered in the WSSP. The first two positions will be alpha, numeric, or a combination. It has been agreed that the Army will request the 2-position weapon system code that the Army assigns as the 4th and 5th positions of the material category code. The third position will always be an alpha indicating the service registering the weapon system in the WSSP. The designation for Army is "A."

weapon system group code (WSGC)

This is a one-position alpha code indicating the priority of the weapon system to the registering service. HQDLA, Defense Logistics Services Center, will determine the number of weapon systems that may be assigned to each WSGC. The WSGC is indicative of the amount of management focus and resource allocation the service has requested that DLA apply.

a. Level A—highest priority. Requires maximum management intensity and resourcing. Aircraft and tank engines should be registered separately from the airframe or chassis to increase the visibility of these readiness drivers. All Level A systems will have a DLA WSSM assigned. May include but is not limited to:

(1) Critical warfighting systems.

(2) Low-density systems with irregular demand patterns.

(3) Systems with down trending supply availability or readiness problems.

(4) Medical materiel systems.

(5) Assemblies or components critical to the operational availability of a weapon system (for example, engines).

(6) End items that are required to support many platforms or soldiers (for example, generators, communication).

(7) Weapon systems involved in a special need or program.

b. Level B—priority. May require additional management focus and resources.

(1) Systems with significant materiel changes pending.

(2) Midlife systems with unusual demand patterns.

(3) Low-density equipment.

c. Level C—sustainment. May include, but is not limited to:

(1) Balance of SORT systems.

(2) Systems in development with approved supportability strategies that include DLA supply support.

(3) Stable systems with steady demand that are not experiencing supply problems.

weapon system indicator code (WSIC)
An internal DLA code applied to each NSN registered in the WSSP. It is determined by the WSGC of the weapon system and the EC of the part (by NSN). It is used to identify the management intensity required by each NSN. NSNs common to more than one weapon system will be managed according to the highest system criticality/NSN essentiality combination regardless of system applicability.

weapon system support manager (WSSM)
The WSSM is the person designated by DLA to coordinate DLA support for assigned systems. All Level A systems will have a WSSM assigned. On an exception basis, DLA may assign a WSSM to Level B or Level C systems.

Section III
Special Abbreviations and Terms
This publication uses the following abbreviations, brevity codes, and acronyms not contained in AR 310–50. These include use for weapon system descriptions.

COC
council of colonels

DSA
Deputy for Systems Acquisition

GOSC
general officer steering committee

IMMC
integrated materiel management centers

MSC
major subordinate command

PEOs
program executive officer

SORT
Status of resources and training

USAMMA
U.S. Army Medical Materiel Activity

WSDC
weapon system designator code

WSEC
weapon system essentiality code

WSGC
weapon system group code

WSIC
weapon system indicator code

WSSM
weapon system support manager

WSSP
Weapon Systems Support Program